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DE RUEHVB #0514 1451354
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FM AMEMBASSY ZAGREB
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7736
INFO RUEHVJ/AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO 0240
RUEHBW/AMEMBASSY BELGRADE 1953
RUEHSQ/AMEMBASSY SKOPJE 2589
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RUEHTI/AMEMBASSY TIRANA 0819
RUEHCH/AMEMBASSY CHISINAU 0095
RUEHPS/USOFFICE PRISTINA 0579
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS

UNCLAS ZAGREB 000514

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STATE FOR EUR/SCE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ECON ETRD PREL HR

SUBJECT: CROATIA RATIFIES CEFTA

Croatia's parliament ratified CEFTA on May 18. The vote of 101 in favor, 7 against and 3 abstentions reflects the solid support in Croatia for the agreement, which the business community hopes will bolster Croatia's exports to the region. Together with the South East Europe Cooperative Process Summit the GOC hosted in Zagreb earlier this month, this vote is another indication of the broad political consensus that exists in Croatia for greater regional engagement.

BRADTKE